

Filed for intro on 05/23/2001

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 473

By Hagood

A RESOLUTION To commend Sue S. Walker for her honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee as a community volunteer.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, A highly respected member of the Knoxville community, Sue S. Walker is one such citizen who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Throughout her exemplary tenure as a community volunteer, Mrs. Walker has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to her community; and

WHEREAS, A native of Virginia, Sue Walker received her Bachelor's degree from Emory and Henry and her Master's degree from the University of Kentucky; she taught school in Virginia, Florida, and Tennessee and coached girls' high school basketball, leading her team on a two-year winning streak; and

WHEREAS, After settling with her late husband, Dr. Kenneth Rue Walker, in Knoxville, Mrs. Walker embarked on her career as a mother and a public servant; and

WHEREAS, A dedicated philanthropist, Sue Walker has touched and affected almost every group in Knoxville, selflessly giving her time to countless community projects as an active and devoted volunteer; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker has served in the dental field as President of the 2nd District Dental Alliance; in addition, she has served on almost every committee and as Secretary, Treasurer, and President of the State Alliance; and

WHEREAS, For over 28 years, she has been a member of the Dental Alliance of the American Dental Association, and she has also served as Trustee for the District V Region and on the National Board for 10 years, serving as Public Resolutions Chairman twice, Chairman of the Finance Committee, Long Term Planning Committee, Comptroller for two terms, a member of the Reference Committee, Vice President, President Elect, and National President; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Walker has also served as a working member on many Knoxville, State, and National Boards, including Smoky Mountain Arthritis, Tennessee Arthritis, the Beautification Board, Cancer Society, League of Women Voters, National American Mothers Association, Beta Sigma Phi, and Barbara Keaton Gardens; and

WHEREAS, She has served as President of the following clubs: Tennessee Federation of Women's Clubs, YWCA, City Association of Women's Clubs, Elementary PTA, High School PTA, Dogwood Arts Festival, Student Museum Guild, Akima Club, Knoxville Women's Club, Second District Federated Women's Club, Church Circles, and the Students Museum; and

WHEREAS, A member of the Federation of Women's Clubs for over 30 years, she gives countless hours each year to the Federation, serving in various leadership roles and contributing her many talents to ensure the success of the Clubs' various endeavors; and

WHEREAS, During the last year of her term as President of the Tennessee Federated Women's Clubs, Mrs. Walker's husband died unexpectedly, yet she continued to meet her obligations and fulfill her job, not missing any meetings; and

WHEREAS, For her seemingly limitless devotion to her community, Mrs. Walker has received numerous honors, awards, and accolades, including the Tennessee Federated

Women's Club Outstanding Member of the Year, Knoxville's First Lady during the year of the World Fair in Knoxville, Sertoma's Service to Mankind, Knoxville Civic Leader, YWCA Outstanding Member, Tennessee Mother of the Year, the Golden Apple Award for her teaching career, and Tennessee's Outstanding Achievement Award from Governor McWherter; in addition, the Mayor of Knoxville has deemed several different days as "Sue S. Walker Day" to acknowledge and commend her for her local achievements; and

WHEREAS, She also contributes to her community as a public speaker, lending the benefit of her experience and hard-won wisdom to high school graduations; Dental Alliance, local, state, and national meetings, the Federation of Women's Clubs, local and state civic clubs, and government events; and

WHEREAS, A member of the Beaver Creek Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Mrs. Walker serves her church as a Deacon, Trustee, Camp Leader, Sunday School Teacher, Circle President, and member of the Garden Circle; and

WHEREAS, In addition to her club activities, Mrs. Walker is employed as the Director of the James White Fort, the birth place of Knoxville; and

WHEREAS, Sue Walker's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; an admitted workaholic, she believes that we all must give back to the community in recompense for the space in which we are loaned to live; and

WHEREAS, An extremely giving person, Mrs. Walker often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, and she epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, Her many accomplishments aside, Mrs. Walker is the proud mother of two beautiful, successful daughters, Kendra and Kandi; and

WHEREAS, Kendra is a graduate of Bethel College and Tennessee Tech, and Kandi is a graduate of the University of Tennessee, the University of Memphis, and holds a Ph.D. from the University of Denver; and

WHEREAS, Sue Walker is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Sue S. Walker for her honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as a community volunteer and salute her unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.